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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/701,080	02/27/2001	Mark J. O'Connor	117-328	5965

7590

04/16/2002

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EXAMINER

SALIMI, ALI REZA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1648

DATE MAILED: 04/16/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/701,080

Applicant(s)

O'Connor et al

Examiner

A. R. SALMI

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE One MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/27/01; 11/24/00
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 36-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 36-55 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The receipt of preliminary amendment A, and B of 2/27/01, are acknowledged. Claims 1-11, 27-35 have been canceled. Claims 36-55 have been added and are pending.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in response to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 36-44, and 52-55, drawn to method of determining compound capable of disrupting interaction between two polypeptide. **(Please note if this group is selected further select one sequence in addition to SEQ ID NO: 1, to be examined on the merits, and amend the claims accordingly, see below for explanation)**

Group II, claim(s) 45-47, drawn to a method of identifying a compound which interacts with a polypeptide. **(Please note if this group is selected further select one sequence in addition to SEQ ID NO: 1, to be examined on the merits, and amend the claims accordingly, see below for explanation)**

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Group III, claim(s) 48, drawn to a purified polypeptide. **(Please note if this group is selected further select one sequence in addition to SEQ ID NO: 1, to be examined on the merits, and amend the claims accordingly, see below for explanation)**

Group IV, claim(s) 49-51, drawn to polynucleotide molecule. **(Please note if this group is selected further select one sequence in addition to SEQ ID NO: 1, to be examined on the merits, and amend the claims accordingly, see below for explanation)**

The inventions listed as Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The invention of Group I is known in the prior art as evidenced by Yang et al (1996), and Nakatani et al (WO 98/03652, see the claims). The cited evidence proves that the technical feature of Group I does not make a contribution over the prior art. Thus, the claims are not so linked by a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2 as such the restriction is proper.

Upon election of Group I, II, III, or IV Applicants are additionally required to elect a single Sequence identified by a specific sequence identification number, in addition to SEQ ID NO: 1, as indicated above as they apply to group(s). The recited sequences have different structures one from other and the search for the sequences would be unduly burdensome. This

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requirement is not to be construed as a requirement for an election of species, since each of the sequence(s) recited in alternative form is not a member of a single genus of invention, but constitutes an independent and patentably distinct invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. R. Salimi whose telephone number is (703) 305-7136. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 Am to 6:00 Pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Housel, can be reached on (703) 308-4027. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3014, or (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

A. R. Salimi

4/10/2002

Ali R. Salimi
ALI R. SALIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER